THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Some of the important steps taken to reduce accidents are :

(i) induction of technical devices to aid the human element;

(ii) monitoring the performance of staff of critical safety categories such as drivers, euards, station masters etc ;

(iii) intensive training of staff in operational categories ;

(iv) intensive and frequent inspections of sensitive installations ;

(v) surprise checks against carriage of inflammable/explosive material in passenger trains ; and

(vi) provision of whistle boards/speed breakers and road signs at the approaches of unmanned level crossings and improving visibility for road users and train drivers.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. While about 66% of the train accidents during the period January—June, 1992 on the South Central Railway are attributed to 'human failure', a couple of serious accidents involving a large number of casualties and injuries were caused by suspected sabotage by anti-social elements. Negligence of road users and equipment failure also caused some accidents. A thorough cause-wise analysis has been made of all the accidents and necessary follow-up action initiated on the Railway.

Conversion of M. G. into B. G. in the Country

88. SHRI MENTAY PADMANA-BHAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the proposals under Governments consideration for conversion of metre-gauge lines into broad gauge in the country ;

(b) the mileage propsed for conversion ;

(c) the mileage proposed for conversion in Andhra Pradesh ; and

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(d) the lines earmarked for conversion in Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) An action Plan for conversion of M. G./N.G. lines to B.G. has been drawn up. In the first phase about 11,000 kafts. of such lines have bees iden-tified for conversion. Out of this 6,000 kms. are targetted for completion during the Eighth Plan.

(c) and (d) The lines earmarked for conversion in Andhra Pradesh & mileage is as under :—

	Kms.
1) Chickjajur-Bellary	39
(2) Guntur-Guntakal-Kallaru & lifting of Kalluru-Bharmavaram	458\ 76/
(3) Secunderabad-Dronadfcaiam *St* Secunderabad-Bolarum	331\ 104 /
(4) Katpadi-Pakala Tirupati	1008

Conversion of Railway Lines

89. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV :
SHRI SURINDER SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decide to convert all MG and NG railway lines into BG within two years;

(b) what it the total amount required for the purpose and where the work is in progress ;

(c) whether it is a fact that for the conversion of Aurangabad-Parbhani MG to BG project Rs. 50 crores have been provided for the year 1992-93 but the work has not been started; and

(d) by when the gauge cinversion work is to be completed from Adilabad to Parbhani and Miraj-Latur-Latur Rd. NG to BG ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached. *(See* befow)